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EXHIBIT "23"

March 2, 2009

Honorable Richard D. Bennett
United States District Judge
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Re: United States of America v. Patrick Byers, et al.
Case No. RDB-08-056

Dear Judge Bennett:

I write this letter on behalf of Mr. Steven Thompson concerning the Juror Questionnaires.

This letter will address those questionnaires from "Batch Two" that we believe should be stricken for cause. I would advise the Court that on behalf of Mr. Thompson, Mr. Waldman and I divided this category of questionnaires and the Court will be receiving directly from Mr. Waldman a number of additional Jurors that we find, in our view, should be stricken for cause.

From that group I have examined, we find that the following Jurors should be stricken for cause:

<u>Juror Number</u>	<u>Cause</u>
025	p. 26 could not differentiate Defendants or counts, possible bias, p. 32, and concern over work, p. 34
028	p. 31 states that this Juror would always impose the death penalty, see p. 33, Q. 16.
040	p. 18, 19 bias against defense attorneys, p. 16 was a DEA officer, p. 29 "they should all fry," p. 31 "beyond a reasonable doubt speaks for itself"

Page Two

Honorable Richard D. Bennett

March 2, 2009

042 p. 23 bias as to race "I won't
like it," p. 26 could not
differentiate Defendants

053 hardship-babysits for
granddaughter so parents can work
(not sure if Juror can
differentiate Defendants)

064 hardship-self employed and the
sole wage earner in household

081 hardship-day care provider loss
of income great impact on Juror
as well as parents of children
cared for

088 this Dep. Of Parole and Probation
employee states any person
convicted of two murders must
receive the death penalty P. 31

102 p. 26 can not differentiate
charges against Defendants and
p. 31 two murders must receive
death penalty

103 p. 31 two murders must receive
death penalty, p. 30 will have a
difficult time voting against
death penalty, "murder again in
prison"

136 p. 26 will have difficulty in
differentiating Defendants and
counts, p. 31 two murders
requires death penalty

150 retired U.S. Customs official
says defense counsel "less than
honorable citizens," p. 31 two
murders requires death penalty

Page Three

Honorable Richard D. Bennett

March 2, 2009

164 hardship-this Juror is
traveling out of state for two
conferences during trial

182 hardship-has a continuing
education course out of state
during trial and has already paid
for the fare and will not be paid
after two weeks absence from work

222 hardship-this unemployed banker
is actively seeking employment

223 hardship-this Juror from Port
Deposit attached a hardship
letter to the questionnaire (we
did not see) presumably setting
forth difficulty, a family member
has recently been murdered and
the trial in that case is ongoing

237 hardship-teacher cannot forego
teaching during time when
statewide testing is taking place

249 hardship-single income home would
experience extreme financial
hardship

260 hardship-teacher from Hagerstown
cannot forego teaching during
time when statewide testing is
taking place

273 hardship-sole provider of support
(spouse is unemployed) and should
be stricken for cause as Juror
notes "almost all people charged
are guilty" at p. 1, Juror is not
certain if she could

Page Four

Honorable Richard D. Bennett

March 2, 2009

differentiate Defendants or
counts, p. 26

282 hardship-extensive business
travel out of state and family
vacation during first week in
April

286 p. 31 Juror states two murders
must result in the death penalty
and p. 30 would have a difficult
time voting against death penalty

287 hardship-this Juror complains of
frequent and unpredictable
migraine headaches

302 hardship-a senior at Salisbury
University would not be available

341 hardship-a physical therapist
whose business would greatly
suffer as well as the welfare of
his patients and employees

344 hardship-a research technician
who can not be replaced and whose
work would be compromised

Once again, this list comprises those potential Jurors
Thompson requests be stricken for cause from the Jury pool. The
Court may receive additional requests from Mr. Waldman from the
Batch 2 list.

We understand the Court had given us until Thursday,
February 26, 2009 to examine and report to the Court on this
second group of potential Jurors. I apologize to the Court and
counsel for the lateness of this submission and trust it will
not cause any undue hardship.

Page Five

Honorable Richard D. Bennett

March 2, 2009

The Court's consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gerald C. Ruter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Gerald C. Ruter

GCR:dar

cc: by electronic filing to all counsel of record